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Agenda item 118

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Fouad **Rajeh** (Saudi Arabia)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 118 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/58/570.

2. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Financial report and audited financial statements for the 12-month period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ending 30 June 2003 (A/58/737);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/759).

3. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 40th, 41st and 51st meetings, on 3 and 4 May and 3 June 2004. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/58/SR.40, 41 and 51).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/58/5, vol. II).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.89

4. At its 51st meeting, on 3 June 2004, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors" (A/C.5/58/L.89), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Egypt.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.89 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Having considered the financial report and audited financial statements for the twelve-month period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations,[1] the related section of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations in respect of that period,[3]

1. *Accepts* the audited financial statements of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;[4]

2. *Takes note* of the observations and endorses the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;[5]

3. *Also takes note* of the observations and endorses the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[6] related to the report of the Board of Auditors;

4. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the quality of its report and the streamlined format thereof;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2003;[3]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that internal control in peacekeeping missions is improved with respect to the optimum use of audit resources;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee in a prompt and timely manner.

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/58/5), vol. II.

[2] A/58/759, sect. II.

[3] A/58/737.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/58/5), vol. II, chap. V.

[5] See ibid., chap. II.

[6] See A/58/759, sect. II.